

Remarks

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that Claims 1-6 and 17-22 are allowed.

To expedite allowance of this Application, Claims 7-16 and 23-30 have been cancelled without prejudice to their presentation in one or more divisional or continuation applications.

The Examiner objected to Claims 8, 10 and 11 as being dependent on a rejected base claim. Applicants have rewritten Claims 8, 10 and 11 in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. See new Claims 31-33.

**Conclusion.**

In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully request the same. If, however, some issue remains that the Examiner feels can be addressed by an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is cordially invited to call the undersigned for authorization.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE MARTENS OLSON & BEAR LLP

Dated: 22 nov 04

By: Kyle F. Schlueter

Kyle F. Schlueter  
Registration No. 54,912  
Attorney of Record  
Customer No. 20,995  
(310) 551-3450